



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/872,686	05/31/2001	G. Eric Engstrom	112076-138340	2508
25943 7590 05/07/2010 Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt PACWEST CENTER, SUITE 1900 1211 SW FIFTH AVENUE PORTLAND, OR 97204				
EXAMINER				
TRUONG, CAM Y T				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2169				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
05/07/2010		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/872,686

Applicant(s)

ENGSTROM, G. ERIC

Examiner

Cam Y T. Truong

Art Unit

2169

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 April 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-17 and 29-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-17, 29-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/02)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant has amended claims 1-5, 7-17, 29-32 and added claims 33-34 in the amendment filed on 4/30/2010.

Claims 1-5, 7-17, 29-34 are pending in this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because claim 34 contains no hardware. Thus, the claim lacks the necessary physical articles or objects to constitute a machine or a manufacture within the meaning of 35 USC 101. They are clearly not a series of steps or acts to be a process nor are they a combination of chemical compounds to be a composition of matter. As such, they fail to fall within a statutory category. They are, at best, functional descriptive material *per se*.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent

granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 33-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Elsey et al (or hereinafter "Elsey") (US 20090156178).

As to claim 33, Elsey teaches a computer implemented method comprising:

receiving by a computing device a designation of one or more access privileges to access a calendar (paragraph 0040-0043);

receiving by the computing device an input or access request for a first time- slot of a plurality of time-slots of the calendar (paragraphs 0099-0100, fig. 19);

wherein the one or more access privileges are defined for specific time-slots of the plurality of time-slots of the calendar independent of whether there are any events scheduled on the calendar during the specific time-slots (fig. 19, paragraphs 0097-0100);

and if there are events scheduled on the calendar during the specific time-slots, independent of any access privileges defined for such events (paragraphs 0097-0100); and

processing by the computing device said received input or access request in accordance with the one or more access privileges (paragraphs 0100, 0101).

As to claim 34, Elsey teaches

means for receiving a designation of one or more access privileges to access a calendar (paragraph 0040-0043);

means for receiving an input or access request for a first time-slot of a plurality of time-slots of the calendar (paragraphs 0099-0100, fig. 19),

wherein the one or more access privileges are defined for specific time-slots of the plurality of time-slots of the calendar independent of whether there are any events scheduled on the calendar during the specific time-slots (fig. 19, paragraphs 0097-0100);

if there are events scheduled on the calendar during the specific time-slots, independent of any access privileges defined for such events (paragraphs 0097-0100); and

means for processing said received input or access request in accordance with the one or more access privileges (paragraphs 0100, 0101).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-5, 8-17, 29-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vincent (US 4881179) in view of Barnett et al (or hereinafter "Barnett") (US 6369840) and Elsey et al (or hereinafter "Elsely") (US 20090156178).

As to claim 1, Vincent teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving by a computing device an input for a first time-slot of a plurality of time-slots of a first party's calendar from a second party" as receiving a non-owner or a user first enters the start time and end times of the event being calendared into columns 47 and 48 of a owner's L.M. The owner L.M is represented as a first party. The non-owner is represented as a second party (col. 9, lines 30-32; col. 10, lines 22-30),

"the first and second parties being different parties" as the non-owner or a user and the owner are being different owners (col. 9, lines 30-32; col. 10, lines 22-30),

"the second party being associated with a group affiliation or a user type or both" as the non-owner or a user is associated with work group meeting (fig. 4A, col. 9, lines 30-32; col. 10, lines 22-30),

"the group affiliation or user type or both having one or more defined access privileges" as the work group meeting having a access privilege at 2pm to 3pm. A non-owner who has requested a view of the day calendar of L.M. User that was shown in figs. 4A and 4B. The requesting non-owner has an access level of 3 so that all time slots having calendared events are shown and all descriptions except secret and personal are displayed. The above information shows that the system process user's input. The non-owner is not associated with group affiliation and/or user time (fig. 4A, col. 9, lines 53-67 ; col. 10, lines 1-15),

"wherein the one or more defined access privileges are defined for specific time-slots of the plurality of time-slots of the first party's calendar " as 5 levels of access permission not including the access permission level established for an owner to view his own calendar that includes time slots. The above information shows that the system defined access levels for time slots of the calendar (col. 9, lines 60-67; col. 10, lines 3-5).

Vincent does not explicitly teach the claimed limitations:

"independent of whether there are any events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time-slots;

processing by the computing device said received input in accordance with the access privilege of the second party's associated group affiliation or user type or both for the first time-slot;

if there are events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time-slots, independent of any access privileges defined for such events."

Barnett teaches "independent of whether there are any events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time-slots; processing by the computing device said received input in accordance with the access privilege of the second party's associated group affiliation or user type or both for the first time-slot" as after a user clicks on one or more box 904 in time slots as shown in fig. 9 and then clicks on button 807, the events are added to user calendar according to access privilege for the time slots (figs. 14& 9, col. 12, lines 30-41; col. 7, lines 55-65; col. 28, lines 90-65).

Elsey teaches "if there are events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time-slots, independent of any access privileges defined for such events" as [0045] an operator to whom a user (i.e., a read-only subscriber, administrator, or owner) of a contacts (appointment) folder corresponds is provided at least the same access rights to the folder as the user. Thus, if the operator corresponds to a "read-only" subscriber, the operator may only view the contacts (appointments) folder but not change it. On the other hand, if the operator corresponds to an owner of the folder, the operator has full access rights to the folder. [0041] Thus, in the first instance, the owner of a contacts or appointments folder is the only subscriber and has sole access to the folder. The owner can appoint additional subscribers to the folder, e.g., read-only subscribers and administrators, and can also remove them later. A read-only subscriber can view or read the folder entries, but cannot make changes thereto. An administrator has, in addition to the viewing rights, rights to modify the folder, but no right to delete the folder. An administrator can also appoint or remove read-only subscribers, but not administrators, to or from the folder. [0096] As described before, an owner of an appointments folder by default is the only person authorized to view and edit his/her own calendar. However, the owner may also grant other users rights to access the appointments folder.

Access rights may have different levels. A user may be granted "read-only" access rights, who is allowed to view certain appointment entries only. For example, the read-only subscriber is generally allowed to view the date, time and title (or subject) of an appointment record, but cannot open the record and

view or edit any details thereof. In addition, the read-only subscriber may not even be allowed to view the title of a personal appointment record. Nor can the read-only user add or delete any appointment records. On the other hand, a user granted "administrator" access rights is generally allowed to view, edit, add or delete appointment records, except for a personal appointment record, in which case the administrator-user can only view the appointment date and time of the personal record. In addition, the administrator-user is allowed to grant the read-only access rights to others, or restrict or revoke such access rights (fig. 17).

The above information shows that access rights are defined independent to events for time-slots of owner's calendar.

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of after a user clicks on one or more box 904 in time slots as shown in fig. 9 and then clicks on button 807, the events are added to user calendar according to access privilege for the time slots and Elsey's teaching of access rights are defined independent to events for time-slots of owner's calendar to Vincent's system in order to allow a user to add information from an owner's calendar to his or her calendar in sequence of time accordance with a security access level to prevent network traffic or to prevent copying owner's information without permission.

As to claim 2, Vincent, Barnett, Elsey teaches the claimed limitation subject matter "defining, before said receiving, the access privileges of the group affiliation or both or user type, for the plurality of time-slots of said calendar; independent of whether there are any events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time-slots, and if there are events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time-slots, independent of any access privileges defined for such events" (Barnett teaches as a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group (col. 2, lines 61-64). (Elsey: Access rights may have different levels. A user may be granted "read-only" access rights, who is allowed to view certain appointment entries only. For example, the read-only subscriber is generally allowed to view the date, time and title (or subject) of an appointment record, but cannot open the record and view or edit any details thereof. In addition, the read-only subscriber may not even be allowed to view the title of a personal appointment record. Nor can the read-only user add or delete any appointment records. On the other hand, a user granted "administrator" access rights is generally allowed to view, edit, add or delete appointment records, except for a personal appointment record, in which case the administrator-user can only view the appointment date and time of the personal record. In addition, the administrator-user is allowed to grant the read-only access rights to others, or restrict or revoke such access rights (fig. 17; paragraphs 0041, 0045, 0069)).

As to claim 3, Vincent Barnett, Elsey teaches the claimed limitation "wherein the access Privileges include a first access privilege with an ability to read data of said first time- slot, and an ability to write data into the first time-slot slot, independent of whether there are any events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the first time-slot, and if there are events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the first time-slot, independent of any access privileges defined for such events" as (Vincent: figs. 4A and 5; Barnett: col. 2, lines 61-64; Elsey: fig. 17, paragraphs 0041, 0045, 0069).

As to claim 4, Vincent teaches the same claimed limitation subject matter as discussed in claim 1, Vincent further the claimed limitations:

"receiving a request for calendar entry or entries for a first time-slot of a plurality of time-slots of a first party's calendar, wherein the request is submitted by a second party associated with a group affiliation or user type or both" as a non-owner who has requested a view of the day calendar of L.M. User that was shown in figs. 4A and 4B.

The requesting non-owner has an access level of 3 so that all time slots having calendared events are shown and all descriptions except secret and personal are displayed. The above information shows that the system process user's input. The non-owner is not associated with group affiliation and/or user time (col. 53-67; col. 10, lines 1-15),

"the first and second parties being different parties" as non-owner is different from the calendar's owner (col. 10, lines 20-30),

"the group affiliation or user type or both having one or more defined access privileges" as non-owner such as administrative assistant or secretary having a plurality of access levels to a owner calendar for the plurality of time- slots of the owner's calendar (col. 9, lines 53-67; col. 10, lines 20-38),

"wherein the one or more defined access privileges are defined for specific time-slots of the plurality of time-slots of the first-party's calendar " as there are 5 levels of access permission not including the access permission level established for an owner to view his own calendar that includes time slots. The above information shows that the system defined access levels for time slots of the calendar (col. 9,lines 60-67; col. 10, lines 3-5).

Vincent does not explicitly teach the limitations:

independent of whether there are any events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time-slots; selectively providing calendar entry for the first time-slot, in accordance with the one or more defined access privileges of the group affiliation or user type or both for the first time-slot and if there are events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time- slots, independent of any access privileges defined for such events.

Barnett teaches after a user clicks on one or more box 904 in time slots as shown in fig. 9 and then clicks on button 807, the events are added to user calendar 10, lines 20-40).

Barnett teaches a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group (col. 2, lines 61-64).

Elsey teaches "if there are events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time-slots, independent of any access privileges defined for such events" as [0045] an operator to whom a user (i.e., a read-only subscriber, administrator, or owner) of a contacts (appointment) folder corresponds is provided at least the same access rights to the folder as the user. Thus, if the operator corresponds to a "read-only" subscriber, the operator may only view the contacts (appointments) folder but not change it. On the other hand, if the operator corresponds to an owner of the folder, the operator has full access rights to the folder. [0041] Thus, in the first instance, the owner of a contacts or appointments folder is the only subscriber and has sole access to the folder. The owner can appoint additional subscribers to the folder, e.g., read-only subscribers and administrators, and can also remove them later. A read-only subscriber can view or read the folder entries, but cannot make changes thereto. An administrator has, in addition to the viewing rights, rights to modify the folder, but no right to delete the folder. An administrator can also appoint or remove read-only subscribers, but not administrators, to or from the folder. [0096] As described before, an owner of an appointments folder by default is the only person authorized to view and edit his/her own calendar. However, the owner may also grant other users rights to access the appointments folder.

Access rights may have different levels. A user may be granted "read-only" access rights, who is allowed to view certain appointment entries only. For example, the read-only subscriber is generally allowed to view the date, time and title (or subject) of an appointment record, but cannot open the record and view or edit any details thereof. In addition, the read-only subscriber may not even be allowed to view the title of a personal appointment record. Nor can the read-only user add or delete any appointment records. On the other hand, a user granted "administrator" access rights is generally allowed to view, edit, add or delete appointment records, except for a personal appointment record, in which case the administrator-user can only view the appointment date and time of the personal record. In addition, the administrator-user is allowed to grant the read-only access rights to others, or restrict or revoke such access rights (fig. 17).

The above information shows that access rights are defined independent to events for time-slots of owner's calendar.

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of after a user clicks on one or more box 904 in time slots as shown in fig. 9 and then clicks on button 807, the events are added to user calendar according to access privilege for the time slots and Elsey's teaching of access rights are defined independent to events for time-slots of owner's calendar to Vincent's system in order to allow a user to add information from an owner's calendar to his or her calendar in sequence of time accordance with a security

access level to prevent network traffic or to prevent copying owner's information without permission.

As to claim 5 is rejected under same reason as discussed in claims 1-4, Vincent further teaches the claimed limitation "defining, before said receiving, the access privileges of the group affiliation or user type or both, for the time-slots of said calendar" as displaying to a non-owner who has requested a view of the day calendar of LM. The requesting non-owner has an access level of 3 so that all time slots having calendared events are shown and all descriptions except secret and personal are displayed. The calendar owner allow a specified person to have access to his calendar at a specified security level which may be different that the general access level that has been assigned to that person by the system. This function allows a calendar owner to grant access to his calendar to an administrative assistant or secretary. The above information shows that the system defines time slots of the calendar. The system does not define the access privileges of the group affiliation (col. 10, lines 20-40).

Vincent does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation:

group affiliation; independent of whether there are any events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time-slots.

Barnett teaches a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it.

Different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group (col. 2, lines 61-64).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group to Vincent's system in order to allow a user to share selected calendar information with other users of a group in a security level access.

As to claim 8 includes the same claimed limitation as discussed in claim 1; thus claim 8 is rejected under same reason as discussed in claim 1, Vincent further teaches the claimed limitations:

"designating by a computing device one or more defined access privileges for a plurality of time-slots of a first party's calendar for a user group or user type or both" as designated a plurality of access levels to a plurality of time slots of a owner's calendar for an administrative assistant type and not for a user group (col. 9, lines 52- 67 ; col. 10, lines 1 -10),

"wherein the one or more defined access privileges are defined for specific time-slots of the plurality of time-slots of the first party's calendar" as there are 5 levels of access permission not including the access permission level established for an owner

to view his own calendar that includes time slots. The above information shows that the system defined access levels for time slots of the calendar (fig. 4A, col. 9, lines 60-67; col. 10, lines 3-5),

"granting or denying access by the computing device to a first time-slot of the plurality of time-slots to said second party in accordance with the one or more defined access privileges for the first time-slot of the user group or type or both determined for said second party" as grant access to a owner's calendar of the plurality of time-slots in accordance with access level 3 for the start time slot of user type (col. 10, lines 20-40).

Vincent does not explicitly teach the claimed limitations "determining by said computing device that a second party is a member of said user group or type or both". Barnett teaches a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group (col. 2, lines 61-64).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group to Vincent's system in order to allow a user to share selected calendar information with other users of a group in a security level access.

As to claim 9, Vincent does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "wherein said second party has a user identification identifiable to the user group or user type or both".

Barnett teaches a user may elect to login at this point by providing input specifying a login identifier and password. This allows system 100 to retrieve user-specific information, by reference to a record stored in database 104 of the system. If the user has not used the system before, he or she is prompted to sign up in 302, by selecting a login identifier and password for future reference. A new record is created and stored for the user. The user is also given the option of signing up in a group using the group sign-up page 304, which allows the user to share his or her calendar with other members of selected groups. Page 303 contains a description of groups and their operation (col. 7, lines 45-67).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of a user may elect to login at this point by providing input specifying a login identifier and password. This allows system 100 to retrieve user-specific information, by reference to a record stored in database 104 of the system. If the user has not used the system before, he or she is prompted to sign up in 302, by selecting a login identifier and password for future reference. A new record is created and stored for the user. The user is also given the option of signing up in a group using the group sign-up page 304, which allows the user to share his or her calendar with other members of selected groups. Page 303 contains a description of

groups and their operation to Vincent's system in order to allow a non-owner to access a owner's calendar for update owner's calendar.

As to claim 10, Vincent does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "reading into said computing device said second party's user identification and said access privileges". Barnett teaches a user may elect to login at this point by providing input specifying a login identifier and password. This allows system 100 to retrieve user-specific information, by reference to a record stored in database 104 of the system. If the user has not used the system before, he or she is prompted to sign up in 302, by selecting a login identifier and password for future reference. A new record is created and stored for the user. The user is also given the option of signing up in a group using the group sign-up page 304, which allows the user to share his or her calendar with other members of selected groups. Different access can assign to different member of group. Page 303 contains a description of groups and their operation (col. 7, lines 45-67; col. 2, lines 60-65).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of a user may elect to login at this point by providing input specifying a login identifier and password. This allows system 100 to retrieve user-specific information, by reference to a record stored in database 104 of the system. If the user has not used the system before, he or she is prompted to sign up in 302, by selecting a login identifier and password for future reference. A new record is created and stored for the user. The user is also given the option of signing up in a group using the group sign-up page 304, which allows the user to share his or

her calendar with other members of selected groups. Page 303 contains a description of groups and their operation to Vincent's system in order to allow a non-owner to access a owner's calendar for update owner's calendar.

As to claim 11, Vincent teaches the claimed limitation "including the computing device facilitating said first party in providing said use group or user type or both and said access privileges" as providing a plurality of access levels to a plurality of time slots of a owner's calendar for an administrative assistant type (fig. 5, col. 9, lines 52-67., col. 10, lines 1-10).

As to claim 12 includes the same claimed limitation subject matter as discussed in claims 1-4; thus, claim 12 is rejected under the same reason as discussed in claims 1-4, Vincent teaches the claimed limitation " including the computing device facilitating the second party in inputting data into the first time-slot, the user group or user type or both having an access privilege to the first time-slot including an ability to write data into the first time slot" as receiving a non-owner or a user first enters the start time and end times of the event being calendared into columns 47 and 48 of a owner's L.M. The owner L.M is represented as a first party. The non-owner is represented as a second party. The above information shows that the user (not user group) having an access privilege to write data into the start time slot (col. 9, lines 30-32., col. 10, lines 22-30).

Barnett teaches a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it.

Different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group (col. 2, lines 61-64).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group to Vincent's system in order to allow a user to share selected calendar information with other users of a group in a security level access.

As to claim 13, Vincent teaches the claimed limitation "wherein said calendar includes an event that spans the first and at least a second time-slot, and the method further comprises said computer system omitting descriptive data of said event when said second user accesses said first time slot, if said user group or user type or both does not has read access to all of said at least a second time-slot, even if said user group or user type or both has read access to said first time-slot" as (figs. 4A-5). As to claim 14, Vincent does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation " including the computer system facilitating the second user in editing data time-slot".

Barnett teaches a user can select individual event categories and/or subdivisions for display in Favorite Events pages 313-315. Selecting an event category in this

manner is referred to as "subscribing" to the event category. Favorite Events pages 313-315 display selected events in either a Day View 313, a Week View 314, or a Month View 315. Pages 313-315 allow a user to select individual events from the selected categories, to be added to the personal calendar. The user can also access an Edit Favorites page 316 which allows him or her to add or remove categories and/or subdivisions from display in favorite Events pages 313-315. The user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different members of the group. The user can also import events from other users' calendars. In addition, purchases of products, services, or tickets can be effected using links associated with displayed events (col. 2, lines 55-67., col. 8, lines 30-40).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of the user can select individual event categories and/or subdivisions for display in Favorite Events pages 313-315. Selecting an event category in this manner is referred to as "subscribing" to the event category. Favorite Events pages 313-315 display selected events in either a Day View 313, a Week View 314, or a Month View 315. Pages 313-315 allow a user to select individual events from the selected categories, to be added to the personal calendar. The user can also access an Edit Favorites page 316 which allows him or her to add or remove categories and/or subdivisions from display in favorite Events pages 313-315. The user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group,

where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different members of the group. The user can also events from other users' calendars. In addition, purchases of products, services, or tickets can be effected using links associated with displayed events to Vincent's system in order to allow a user to specify categories of events, to view events belonging to the specified categories from outside sources, and to add selected events from the outside sources to a personal calendar.

As to claim 13, Vincent teaches the claimed limitation "wherein said calendar includes an event that spans the first and at least a second time-slot, and the method further comprises said computing device omitting descriptive data of said event when said second user accesses said first time slot, if said user group or user type or both does not has read access to all of said at least a second time-slot, even if said user group or user type or both has read access to said first time-slot" as (figs. 4A-5).

As to claim 14 includes the same claimed limitation subject matter as discussed in claims 1-4, thus, claim 14 is rejected under the same reason as discussed in claims 1-4, Vincent does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation " including the computing device facilitating the second user in editing datatime-slot". Barnett teaches a user can select individual event categories and/or subdivisions for display in Favorite Events pages 313-315. Selecting an event category in this manner is

referred to as "subscribing" to the event category. Favorite Events pages 313-315 display selected events in either a Day View 313, a Week View 314, or a Month View 315. Pages 313-315 allow a user to select individual events from the selected categories, to be added to the personal calendar. The user can also access an Edit Favorites page 316 which allows him or her to add or remove categories and/or subdivisions from display in favorite Events pages 313-315. The user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different members of the group. The user can also import events from other users' calendars. In addition, purchases of products, services, or tickets can be effected using links associated with displayed events (col. 2, lines 55-67., col. 8, lines 30-40).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of the user can select individual event categories and/or subdivisions for display in Favorite Events pages 313-315. Selecting an event category in this manner is referred to as "subscribing" to the event category. Favorite Events pages 313-315 display selected events in either a Day View 313, a Week View 314, or a Month View 315. Pages 313-315 allow a user to select individual events from the selected categories, to be added to the personal calendar. The user can also access an Edit Favorites page 316 which allows him or her to add or remove categories and/or subdivisions from display in favorite Events pages 313-315. The user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group,

where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different members of the group. The user can also events from other users' calendars. In addition, purchases of products, services, or tickets can be effected using links associated with displayed events to Vincent's system in order to allow a user to specify categories of events, to view events belonging to the specified categories from outside sources, and to add selected events from the outside sources to a personal calendar.

As to claim 15, Vincent does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "wherein first time-slot includes a time-slot of one specific date, a corresponding time-slot on each of a number of week days of a week, or a corresponding time-slot on each of a week day of a number of weeks". Barnett teaches time slot includes a time slot of a date corresponding to a number week days of a week (figs. 9 & 13).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Vincent's teaching of time slot includes a time slot of a date corresponding to a number week days of a week to Vincent's system in order to provide a improve method of scheduling meetings which permits an operator to select desired times, dates and attendees correctly.

As to claim 16, Vincent does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "including the computing device facilitating the second user in categorizing a meeting, an appointment, a reminder, an event, an anniversary, categorizing a family event, a

school meeting, and a social event for said first user's calendar". Barnett teaches categorizing a meeting, an event in calendar of another user as shown in fig. 13. The above information shows it would have been obvious to categorizing different type of events such as school meeting, family event or anniversary (figs. 1 1-14).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of categorizing a meeting, an event in calendar of another user to Vincent's system in order to provide a improved method of scheduling meetings which permits an operator to select desired times, dates and attendees correctly.

As to claim 17, Vincent teaches the claimed limitation "wherein granting and/or denying access is further based on an event type of an event to be read from or written into said first time-slot by said second party" as (col. 10, lines 40-60).

As to claim 29 includes the same claimed limitation subject matter as discussed in claim 1, thus, claim 29 is rejected under the same reason as discussed in claim 1, Vincent further teaches a non-transitory computer readable storage medium having instructions stored thereon that, in response to execution by a computing device (col. 6, lines 20-35), cause the computing device to:

"designate one or more defined access privileges to a plurality of time-slots of a first user's calendar for a user group or user type or both" as designated a plurality of access levels to a plurality of time slots of a owner's calendar for an administrative assistant type and not for a user group (col. 9, lines 52-67., col. 10, lines 1-10),

"grant or deny access to a first time-slot of the plurality of time-slots to said second user in accordance with the one or more defined access privileges for the first time-slot of the user group or type or both determined for said second user" as grant access to a owner's calendar of the plurality of time-slots in accordance with access level 3 for the start time slot of user type and not the user group (col. 10, lines 20-40), "wherein the one or more defined access privileges are defined for specific time-slots of the plurality of time-slots of the first party's calendar" as there are 5 levels of access permission not including the access permission level established for an owner to view his own calendar that includes time slots. The above information shows that the system defined access levels for time slots of the calendar (col. 9, lines 60-67; col. 10, lines 3-5).

Vincent does not explicitly the claimed limitation "that a second user being a member of said user group or type or both". Barnett teaches a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group (col. 2, lines 61-64).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching of a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group to Vincent's system in order to allow a user to

share selected calendar information with other user of a group in a security level access.

As to claim 30, Vincent teaches the claimed limitation "perform said granting or denying access based on an event type of an event to be read from or written into said first time-slot by said second user" as (fig. 5, col. 10, lines 1-30).

As to claim 31 includes the same claimed limitation as discussed in claim 1, thus, claim 31 is rejected under the same reason as discussed in claim 1, Vincent further teaches the claimed limitations:

"a processor" as processor (col. 5, lines 67-68), and

"calendar module operated by the processor" as a calendar method operated by processor (col. 5, lines 60-67), and

"adapted to facilitate designating one or more defined access privileges to a plurality of time-slots of a first user's calendar for a user group or user type or both" as designated a plurality of access levels to a plurality of time slots of a owner's calendar for an administrative assistant type and not for a user group (col. 9, lines 52-67; col. 10, lines 1 - 10),

"granting or denying access to a first time-slot of the plurality of time-slots to said second user in accordance with one or more defined access privileges for the first time-slot of the user group or type or both determined for said second user" as grant access to a owner's calendar of the plurality of time-slots in accordance with access level 3 for the start time slot of user type and not the user group (col. 10, lines 20-40),

"wherein the one or more defined access privileges are defined for specific time-slots of the plurality of time-slots of the first party's calendar" as there are 5 levels of access permission not including the access permission level established for an owner to view his own calendar that includes time slots. The above information shows that the system defined access levels for time slots of the calendar (col. 9, lines 60-67; col. 10, lines 3-5).

Vincent does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "determining that a second user is a member of said user group or type or both".

Barnett teaches a user can set up a group calendar, specifying the members in the group, where every group member can access the calendar and make changes to it. Different levels of access can be specified for different member members of the group (col. 2, lines 61- 64).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Barnett's teaching to Vincent's system in order to allow a user to share selected calendar information with other users of a group in a security level access.

As to claim 32, Vincent teaches the claimed limitation "wherein the calendar module is further adapted to perform said panting and/or denying access based on an event type of an event to be read from or written into said first time-slot by said second user" as (col. 10, lines 1-30).

As to claim 33 includes the same limitation subject matter as discussed in claim 1; thus, claim 33 is rejected under the same reason as discussed in claim 1, Vincent further teaches a computer implemented method comprising:

receiving by a computing device a designation of one or more access privileges to access a calendar (col. 9, lines 30-32; col. 10, lines 22-30);

receiving by the computing device an input or access request for a first time- slot of a plurality of time-slots of the calendar (col. 9, lines 30-32; col. 10, lines 22-30);

processing by the computing device said received input or access request in accordance with the one or more access privileges (col. 9, lines 53-67; col. 10, lines 1-15).

As to claim 34 includes the same claimed limitation subject matter as discussed in claim 1; thus claim 34 is rejected under the same reason as discussed in claim 1, Vincent further teaches

means for receiving a designation of one or more access privileges to access a calendar (col. 9, lines 30-32; col. 10, lines 22-30);

means for receiving an input or access request for a first time-slot of a plurality of time-slots of the calendar (col. 9, lines 30-32; col. 10, lines 22-30),

means for processing said received input or access request in accordance with the one or more access privileges (col. 9, lines 53-67; col. 10, lines 1-15).

6. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vincent (US 4881 179) in view of Barnett et al (or hereinafter "Barnett") (US 6369840) and Elsey et al (or hereinafter "Elsey") (US 20090156178) and further in view of Falkenhainer et al (or hereinafter "Falkenhainer") (US 5930801).

As to claim 7, Vincent teaches the claimed limitation "and an ability viewing an entry in said first time-slot; independent of whether there are any events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the first time-slot" as (fig. 5).

Vincent does not explicit teaches the claimed limitation "wherein the access privileges include an access privilege with an ability of writing an entry into said first time-slot " and "if there are events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time- slots, independent of any access privileges defined for such events".

Falkenhainer "wherein the access privileges include an access privilege with an ability of writing an entry into said first time-slots" as access privilege with an ability of writing (fig. 2, col. 60-67).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Falkenhainer's teaching of access privilege with an

ability of writing to Vincent's system in order to prevent non-authority user to modify an owner's calendar without permission and further to allow a owner of a record to update a entry in a record.

Elsy teaches "if there are events scheduled on the first party's calendar during the specific time-slots, independent of any access privileges defined for such events" as [0045] an operator to whom a user (i.e., a read-only subscriber, administrator, or owner) of a contacts (appointment) folder corresponds is provided at least the same access rights to the folder as the user. Thus, if the operator corresponds to a "read-only" subscriber, the operator may only view the contacts (appointments) folder but not change it. On the other hand, if the operator corresponds to an owner of the folder, the operator has full access rights to the folder. [0041] Thus, in the first instance, the owner of a contacts or appointments folder is the only subscriber and has sole access to the folder. The owner can appoint additional subscribers to the folder, e.g., read-only subscribers and administrators, and can also remove them later. A read-only subscriber can view or read the folder entries, but cannot make changes thereto. An administrator has, in addition to the viewing rights, rights to modify the folder, but no right to delete the folder. An administrator can also appoint or remove read-only subscribers, but not administrators, to or from the folder. [0096] As described before, an owner of an appointments folder by default is the only person authorized to view and edit his/her own calendar. However, the owner may also grant other users rights to access the appointments folder.

Access rights may have different levels. A user may be granted "read-only"

access rights, who is allowed to view certain appointment entries only. For example, the read-only subscriber is generally allowed to view the date, time and title (or subject) of an appointment record, but cannot open the record and view or edit any details thereof. In addition, the read-only subscriber may not even be allowed to view the title of a personal appointment record. Nor can the read-only user add or delete any appointment records. On the other hand, a user granted "administrator" access rights is generally allowed to view, edit, add or delete appointment records, except for a personal appointment record, in which case the administrator-user can only view the appointment date and time of the personal record. In addition, the administrator-user is allowed to grant the read-only access rights to others, or restrict or revoke such access rights (fig. 17).

The above information shows that access rights are defined independent to events for time-slots of owner's calendar.

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Elsey's teaching of access rights are defined independent to events for time-slots of owner's calendar to Vincent's system in order to allow a user to add information from an owner's calendar to his or her calendar in sequence of time accordance with a security access level to prevent network traffic or to prevent copying owner's information without permission.

Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam Y T. Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-4042. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tony Mahmoudi can be reached on (571) 272-4078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Cam Y Truong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2169